

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Canceled)
2. (currently amended) A flexible lighting device, comprising:  
  
a ~~flexible lighting element rope light~~ which includes a plurality of tiny light bulbs coupled to conducting wires and molded in a plastic rope; and  
  
an adjustable shape-retaining element ~~coupled to~~ incorporated in said rope light and forming an integral part thereof ~~said flexible lighting element~~,  
  
said flexible lighting device having a shape selectable at will, which is changeably retained by said adjustable shape- retaining element.
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (currently amended) ~~The lighting device according to claim 2, further comprising:~~  
  
A flexible lighting device, comprising:  
  
a flexible lighting element which includes a plurality of tiny light bulbs coupled to conducting wires and molded in a plastic rope;  
  
an adjustable shape-retaining element coupled to said flexible lighting element;  
  
said flexible lighting device having a shape selectable at will, which is changeably retained by said adjustable shape- retaining element; and  
  
a translucent flexible covering coupled about said flexible lighting device.

6. (Original) The lighting device according to claim 5, wherein said flexible covering is transparent.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The lighting device according to claim 2, wherein said adjustable shape-retaining element is a metal wire.

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended): A method for forming a lighting device, the method comprising:

providing a rope light; and

~~coupling~~ incorporating an adjustable shape-retaining element ~~to a flexible lighting element, which includes a plurality of tiny light bulbs coupled to conducting wires and molded in a plastic rope~~ in said rope light as an integral part thereof,

so as to form a flexible lighting device having a shape selectable at will and changeably retained by said adjustable shape- retaining element.

13. (canceled)
14. (currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 12, further comprising:~~  
A method for forming a lighting device, the method comprising:  
coupling an adjustable shape-retaining element to a flexible lighting element  
which includes a plurality of tiny light bulbs molded in a plastic rope, and  
mounting the flexible lighting element and adjustable shape-retaining element in a translucent flexible covering.
15. (canceled)
16. (original) The method according to claim 14, wherein said flexible covering is transparent.
17. (canceled)
18. (canceled)
19. (canceled)
20. (new) The device according to claim 2, further comprising:  
a translucent flexible covering coupled about said flexible lighting device.
21. (new) The method according to claim 12, further comprising:  
mounting the rope light in a translucent flexible covering.